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7. The parthenitæ are to be looked upon as physiologically young, and thus able to continue the parthenogenetic cycle for several generations without the hermaphrodite generation.

8. This youth and the attendant simplicity as compared with the miracidium is to be looked upon as secondary results of parasitism.

THE CRYSTALLINE STYLE OF LAMELLIBRANCHS

Nelson (Jour. Morp. Vol. 31, June 1918) presents a review of the work done on the crystalline style in Lamellibranchs, and contributes some interesting results of his own about this singular organ.

The lining of the intestine and of the communicating style sac is ciliated. This ciliary mechanism is regarded as having power to separate food from the foreign particles within the tract. Little discrimination is shown as to material taken into the stomach.

The style arises as a thin core of bubbly mucus upon which co-axial layers of a gelatinous protein, containing enzymes, are deposited. The style rotates in the sac, according to the observer. He confirms the conclusion that it contains strong amylolytic ferments and believes that the style serves as a means of restoring to the stomach undigested food particles which might otherwise be lost, at least in those forms in which the style sac is not separated from the intestine. The store of ferment is thought to be of peculiar value because of the long period during which feeding is impossible in many mollusks.

REVIVIFICATION OF EXSICCATED EARTHWORMS

Schmidt (Jour. Exp. Zool., October 1918) has shown that earthworms are capable of being revived after 39 to 48 hours (depending on temperature) of exsiccation in which they have lost one-third to one-half their length and volume, and show no signs of life that can be detected. The worms were of course very gradually dried. The body must be allowed to retain its elasticity and the skin its softness, if revival is to be expected. Life was normally regained after as much as 61.6 per cent of the weight of body (nearly 73 per cent of the weight of water in the body) had been lost.

The earthworms differ from lower animals like rotifers and nematodes in that they cannot be preserved thru such long periods of time. This is probably due to the fact that they are more complicated, cannot be so completely desiccated, and hence decomposition

changes, thru the presence of microorganisms in the gut, are more likely.

The adaptive quality of this power to sustain loss of water without loss of life is manifest, when we remember the fact that earthworms must meet considerable range of variation in the moisture of the soil crust which they inhabit.

LIFE BEHAVIOR OF ASCARIS

Ransom and Foster (Baltimore meeting of the American Society of Zoologists, 1918) report interesting points in the life history of *Ascaris lumbricoides*. It was found by them that partial development may take place in many hosts which are not suitable for the complete life history. Rats and mice are less favorable than lambs and goats. The partial development in the rats and mice led Stewart to believe that these animals were the intermediate hosts of the *Ascaris* found in man and the pig.

The normal life behavior is stated as follows: Eggs after being swallowed hatch in the intestine. Shortly after hatching the larvae occur in the portal vein and the liver. The lungs, reached thru the circulation, are a point of rapid development. The larvae pass back to the intestine by way of trachea and esophagus. If the animal is a suitable host mature development is reached here. If not, the larvae are lost with the feces.

REVERSAL OF ORIENTATION TO LIGHT

Mast (J. Exp. Zool. Jan. 1919) records that *Volvox* and *Pandorina* react similarly to light. He finds dark-adapted colonies which are usually positive in weak illumination and negative in strong. Light-adapted colonies are sometimes positive in strong and negative in weak light.

If dark-adapted colonies are exposed to continuous illumination they suffer a series of reversals of orientation, the time required for which depends on the intensity of light. They are neutral for a short time; then become positive, passing thru a maximum; after this they become neutral again; then they become negative, passing thru a maximum; again they become neutral, and then pass finally into a positive state.

Green and blue rays are most influential both in stimulation and in producing the reversal of orientation. This sense of orientation is